

## ABSTRACT OF THE DISCLOSURE

An automated name searching system incorporates an automatic name  
5 classifier and a multi-path architecture in which different algorithms are applied based  
on cultural identity of the query name. The name classifier operates with a  
preemptive list, analysis of morphological elements, length, and linguistic rules. A  
name regularizer produces a character based computational representation of the  
name. A pronunciation equivalent representation such as an IPA language  
10 representation, and language specific rules to generate name searching keys, are used  
in a first pass to eliminate database entries which are obviously not matches for the  
query name. The methods can also be implemented as a callable set of library  
routines including an intelligent preprocessor and a name evaluator that produces a  
score comparing a query name and database name, based on a variety of user-  
15 adjustable parameters. The user-controlled parameters permit tuning of the search  
methodologies for specific custom applications.

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